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To: The Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Adlington.

Madam Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the District for the year ended 31st December 1955.

The number of births occurring in the District were 14 fewer than in the previous year giving a Birth Rate of 12.2 as compared with the Birth Rate for the country as a whole of 15.0.

The number of deaths occurring in the District were 5 more than in the previous year, giving a Death Rate of 12.7 as compared with the Death Rate for the country as a whole of 11.7. In regard to causes of death - vascular lesions of the nervous system and malignant neoplasms each show an increase of 4 whilst heart disease other than coronary disease (for which the numbers are the same) show a decrease of 7. Deaths from hypertension with heart disease and other circulatory diseases taken together show an increase of 5. Deaths from other causes show only minor variations.

The number of infants who died before reaching one year of age during the year under consideration was 2 as compared with 5 in the previous year. Such a reduction in infant deaths gives cause for satisfaction.

In regard to notifications of infectious diseases, there were 26 as compared with 48 in the previous year. The reduction is chiefly accounted for by fewer cases of scarlet fever and dysentery.

In accordance with Section I of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, the Council's proposals in regard to slum clearance were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government showing that the estimated number of houses to be dealt with during the next five years would be 51. This matter will require to be actively pursued with the repair or improvement of other properties.

The implementation of the new Food Hygiene Regulations will require a considerable amount of time to be spent on this aspect of the work. It is hoped that all concerned will comply with the spirit and not only the letter of these Regulations. Only in this way will the aims be achieved.

Mr. Alfred Healy resigned from his appointment as Sanitary Inspector & Surveyor on 30th September 1955 in order to take up a similar appointment with Oundle Urban District Council. He was succeeded on 5th December 1955 by Mr. Norman R. Bolton.

In conclusion I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Officers of the Council for their willing assistance at all times. My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the support and consideration extended to me.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J. WALKER.

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1956.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF ADLINGTON

VITAL STATISTICS 1955.

Area	1062 acres
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate Mid 1955)..	4110.
Number of inhabited houses	1356.
Rateable Value at 1st April 1955	£20,737.
Product of 1d Rate	£82.

Births	Male	Female	Total	Birth Rate per 1000 population (Adjusted = 13.1).
Live Births-Legitimate ...	27	22	49	
Illegitimate ...	-	1	1	
	27	23	50	
Stillbirths ...	-	1	1	

Deaths	Male	Female	Total	Death Rate per 1000 population (Adjusted = 12.9)
	30	22	52	

Death from Puerperal Causes ...	Nil.	
Maternal Mortality ...	Nil.	
Death of Infants under one year ...	Male - 1) Female- 1)	Total = 2.
Death of Infants under 4 weeks ...	Male - -) Female- 1)	Total = 1.

All infants per 1000 live births (i.e.Infant Mortality Rate)	40
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	14
do. Measles	-
do. Whooping Cough	-
do. Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	1

Causes of Death		Male	Female
Tuberculosis	...	1	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	5	4
Coronary Disease (Angina)	...	3	-
Other Heart Disease	...	5	1
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	1	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	3	2
Pneumonia	...	1	-
Bronchitis	...	-	2
Meningococcal Infections	...	-	-
Malignant Neoplasms	...	8	6
Suicide	...	1	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	2	1
Other accidents	...	-	3
Congenital malformations	...	-	-
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	-	1
		30	22

	Live Births		Deaths (All Causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. Regis-tered	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. Regis-tered.	Rate per 1000 pop.	No. Regis-tered.	Rate per 1000 total births	No.of deaths Regis-tered.	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths Regis-tered.	Rate per 1000 live births.	No.of deaths Regis-tered.	Rate per 1000 live births.
Year 1955	50	12.2	52	12.7	1	20	-	-	2	40	1	20
Year 1954	64	15.6	47	11.4	1	15	-	-	5	78	3	47
Year 1953	63	15.4	38	9.3	-	-	-	-	1	16	1	16
Year 1952	67	16.4	60	14.7	2	29	-	-	4	60	3	45
Year 1951	68	17.0	52	13.0	1	14	-	-	2	29	2	29
Year 1950	60	14.9	50	12.4	4	63	-	-	4	67	4	67
Average 5 years 1950 - 1954.	64	15.8	49	12.1	2	24.2	-	-	3	50.0	3	40.8

Adjusted (live birth-rate (comparability factor 1.08) = 13.1. per 1000.
(death-rate (comparability factor 1.02) = 12.9. per 1000.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Staff

Medical Officer of Health:- Dr. J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Sanitary Inspector (Part-time):- Norman R. Bolton, R.S.I.

Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological Laboratory, Preston Royal Infirmary.
Pathological Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Facilities.

Provided by Lancashire County Council Ambulance Service. (Chorley Depot) - Telephone: Chorley 2744.

Nursing in the Home.

There is one "District Nurse" practising in the area. She is Nurse Holden, 6 Rivington Avenue, Adlington. Telephone: Adlington 394.

Treatment Clinics.

The "Minor Ailment" Clinic is held at 20 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.

Ancillary School Clinics (Orthopaedic, Dental and Eye, etc.) are held at Chorley and attended by Practitioners of Specialist status. Attendance is by appointment via School Medical Staff.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

The Chest Clinic, 34 St. Thomas's Road, Chorley.
A Chest Physician (Dr. Villiers) attends.
This Clinic is also used as a consultant clinic for chest conditions other than tuberculosis.

Hospital Facilities.

For non-infectious cases :-
Chorley and District Hospital.
Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley.
Wigan Infirmary.
Bolton Royal Infirmary.
Preston Royal Infirmary.
Sharoe Green Hospital, Fulwood.

For infectious cases:-
Isolation Hospital, Heath Charnock.
Whelley Hospital, Wigan.
Isolation Hospital, Deepdale, Preston.

All administered by Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

These services are administered by the Lancashire County Council.

Domiciliary Facilities.

There is now no County Midwife resident in the District. The service is provided from adjacent areas.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

The large majority of the expectant mothers in the area attend the ante-natal clinic at 2/4 St. Thomas's Square, Chorley, and avail themselves of the excellent facilities provided by the Lancashire County Council Divisional Health Service.

Maternity Beds.

Normal accommodation is available at Chorley and District Hospital and Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley. Other hospitals are also available.

Infant Welfare Centres.

An Infant Welfare Centre is held weekly (Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.) at the Christ Church Schoolroom, Adlington, and is attended fortnightly by a Medical Officer of the Lancashire County Council as well as the County Health Visitor. The Medical Officer is Dr. Doris J. Black.

Health Visitor.

The County's Health Visitor for the area is Mrs. Ashley, 123 Bolton Road, Chorley.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

The water supply of the area is provided (1) from the Blackrod Reservoir (by arrangement with the Blackrod U.D.C.) and (2) from a tapping of the conduits taking the Manchester supply from Thirlmere (by arrangement with the Manchester Corporation). The water from both sources is adequate in quantity and satisfactory in quality. Every house in the area has a "main supply". The average daily consumption was 115,214 gallons, which gives a consumption per head of 28.04 gallons daily. The supplies are interchangeable and complementary. During the year the older water mains were scraped to improve the volume of water. Extensions were made to the water main on the Council's Fair View Housing Site for new houses.

Drainage and Sewerage

Only 34 outlying properties are not connected to the sewerage system. These have septic tanks. Sewerage disposal is by precipitation and filtration over 3 coke filters at the Sewerage Disposal Works at Harrisons Farm. The effluent is discharged into the River Douglas. The Sewage Works was modernised in 1931. Extensions to sewers were undertaken in 1955 to new properties, and provision for 32 new Council houses made at Fair View Housing Site.

Rivers and Streams

These are inspected at intervals by the Inspectors of the Lancashire River Board.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

1386 moveable ashbins are emptied weekly by the Local Authority. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two sites.

Cleansing of drains and Closets.

Closet accommodation:-

Privy Middens:- No. of Middens	...	...	10
No. of Closets attached thereto	...	...	12
No. of Pail Closets	...	...	1
No. of freshwater closets	...	...	1684
No. of waste water Closets	...	...	6

The onus for the satisfactory maintenance of drains and closets is upon the property owners and such work is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Lavatories and Urinals.

There are public lavatories at the upper and lower Recreation Grounds, and a modern Sanitary Convenience at Station Road. Another modern Sanitary Convenience was erected during the year and put into use, at Babylon Lane. The Conveniences are cleaned daily by the Local Authority's staff.

Shops and Offices.

There are from 90-100 registered Shops in the area. No action was taken under the Shops Acts or Public Health Act, 1936, during the year. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the Shops Acts, your Sanitary Inspector acting as their agent. The Sanitary Inspector made 107 visits to these premises during the year.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the area.

Smoke Abatement.

No. of factory and Works chimneys in area	...	4
No. of observations taken during the year	...	6

No legal proceedings were undertaken for excessive smoke emissions during the year, but personal contact with firms and their boiler personnel was maintained by the Sanitary Inspector.

Disinfestation of Houses.

Six houses were found to be slightly infested during the year 1955, and were treated with Pyrethum D.D.T. powder with good effect.

Schools.

The water supply of the Schools is from the mains.
Four visits were made to the Schools in respect of Sanitary accommodation.
The trough closets at one school have now been replaced with freshwater closets.

Other Matters.

There are in the area no Common Lodging Houses or "Houses let in Lodgings" registered, no swimming baths or pools, no underground sleeping rooms, no premises where rag flock is manufactured, and no premises for the undertaking of offensive trades.

Summary of Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited	...	...	454
No. of visits made to above	...	...	673
No. of nuisances discovered	...	...	118
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	90
No. of informal Notices served	...	...	10
No. of Statutory Notices served	...	...	-

There were no legal proceedings for the abatement of nuisances.

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year :-

(1)	By Local Authority	...	...	16
(2)	By other Local Authorities	...	...	2 (Police)
(3)	By other bodies or persons	...	...	4.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total no.of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 74

(b) No.of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 87

(2) Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:

(a) No. found during year ... Estimated No.. 51

(b) No.(or estimated no.) at end of year ... 51

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 35

2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act,1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act,1954:-

(1) No. of dwelling houses demolished during year

(a) Unfit houses ... ... nil

(b) Other houses ... ... nil

(2) No. of persons displaced ... ... nil.

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas:-

(1) Houses demolished or closed during year:

(a) Housing Act,1936 -

(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11) ... nil

(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force. nil

(iii) Parts of building closed (Section 12) ... nil

(b) Housing Act 1949 -

(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 3(1) and 3(2) ... nil

(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions)Act,1953.

(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2) ... nil

(2) Repairs during the year:

(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts ... 64

(b) Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied -

(i) By owners ... ... nil

(ii) By local authority in default of owners.. nil

(c) Housing Act,1936 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9,10,11 and 16) Houses made fit -

(i) By Owners ... ... nil

(ii) By local authority in default of owners.. nil

(d) Housing Repair and Rents Act,1954:

Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved and Demolition Orders revoked (Section 5) ... nil

4. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

(1) No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7 ... Nil.

(2) No. of separate dwellings contained in (1) above ... nil.

(3) No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (Section 6) ... ... nil.

5. Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants etc.:-

	Private bodies or individuals.		Local Authority.	
	No. of Schemes.	No. of dwell. houses or other bldgs. affected.	No. of Schemes	No. of dwell. houses etc. affected
(a) Submitted by private indiv. to local authority	2	2	-	-
(b) Submitted by local authority to Ministry	-	-	-	-
(c) Finally approved by Ministry	-	-	-	-
(d) Work completed	-	-	-	-
(e) Additional separate dwellings included in (d) above				

(f) Any other action taken under the Act None.

HOUSING CONDITIONS

As Members are no doubt aware many of the houses in the area are of the "two up and two down" type, and although hot water systems and in some cases bathrooms, are being installed in this type of house, a great number yet lack these amenities. No doubt most of these houses are suitable for improvement under the Housing Acts 1949/1952, but others have outlived their useful life and will have to be dealt with as individual unfit houses or included in Clearance Areas.

A matter which I feel should receive consideration is the housing of aged people, as it is found that owing to their age a bungalow type of dwelling is the most suitable.

The Council might give serious consideration to this question question in future housing projects, as the care of aged persons is a matter which is giving many local authorities much concern.

Housing Schemes.

During the year 16 Council houses were completed on Fair View Farm Site.

A further 16 houses on this Site are to be erected in 1956.

Overcrowding or Housing Shortage.

48 applications for houses were received including 17 from families withour separate homes.(Not all of these cases necessarily result in overcrowding. 18 applications were from persons living outside Adlington.

INFECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply.

The following number of milk traders were on the Register at 31st December 1955:-

Retail purveyors at 31st December 1955 ... 16.

2 Supplementary Licences were granted under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, for the sale of Pasteurised Milk and 2 for the sale of Sterilised Milk.

2 Supplementary Licences were issued for the sale of Tuberculin-Tested Milk.

(b) Meat.

The meat supply to the area is distributed from the Chorley public abattoirs, where there is 100% inspection of carcasses.

All Pigs killed for own use are slaughtered in a licensed slaughterhouse in the district, and all carcasses are inspected. During the year, no Pigs appear to have been slaughtered in the area.

18 visits were made to the various butchers and meat preparing premises during the year.

(c) Other Foods.

Places where other foods are prepared, or kept for sale are inspected frequently by your Sanitary Inspector.

There are 10 small bakehouses and 5 fried fish shops in the district - all are kept in a satisfactory condition.

27 Inspections of places where food is prepared were made during the year by the Sanitary Inspector.

Unsound Food.

During the year the following food was surrendered as unfit for human consumption.

65lbs. Cooked Ham.	27 tins Fish.
42lbs. Lunch Tongue.	20 tins Peas
12lbs. Raw Ham.	8 tins Beans
13½lbs. Stewed Steak.	44 tins Milk
12lbs. Corned Beef.	75 tins Fruit.

Ice-Cream.

Ice-cream retailed throughout the district is mainly confined to pre-packed standard brands.

Rodent Control

The following table gives the work done during the year.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other inc.busin premises	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Total no.of properties in Local Authority's Dist.	8	1318	14	161	1501
No.of properties insp.by Local Auth.during 1955 as a result of(a) notification (b) Survey or otherw:	a. -	14	-	-	14
	b. -	-	-	-	-
No.of properties insp.(see above) found to be infested by rats.	Major. 2	-	-	-	2
	Minor. 2	68	-	-	70
No.of properties insp.(see above) which were found to be seriously infested with mice	-	1	-	-	1
No.of infested properties (see above)treated by Local Author:	4	69	-	-	73
No.of Block control schemes carried out.	Nil.				

PREVENTION OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year the following cases were notified :-

		1955	1954
Food Poisoning	...	-	-
Measles	...	22	5
Scarlet Fever	...	2	25
Whooping Cough	...	1	-
Pneumonia	...	-	3
Dysentery	...	-	13
Paratyphoid Fever	...	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1	1

It is gratifying to note that this has been the 11th successive year without a Diphtheria case notified.

Tuberculosis.

One new case of pulmonary tuberculosis was added to the Register during the year.